

Lake Trout in Wisconsin Waters of Lake Superior; Regulation Options for the 2018 Sport Fishing Season

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Photo: Sam Cook

Lake Superior Restoration



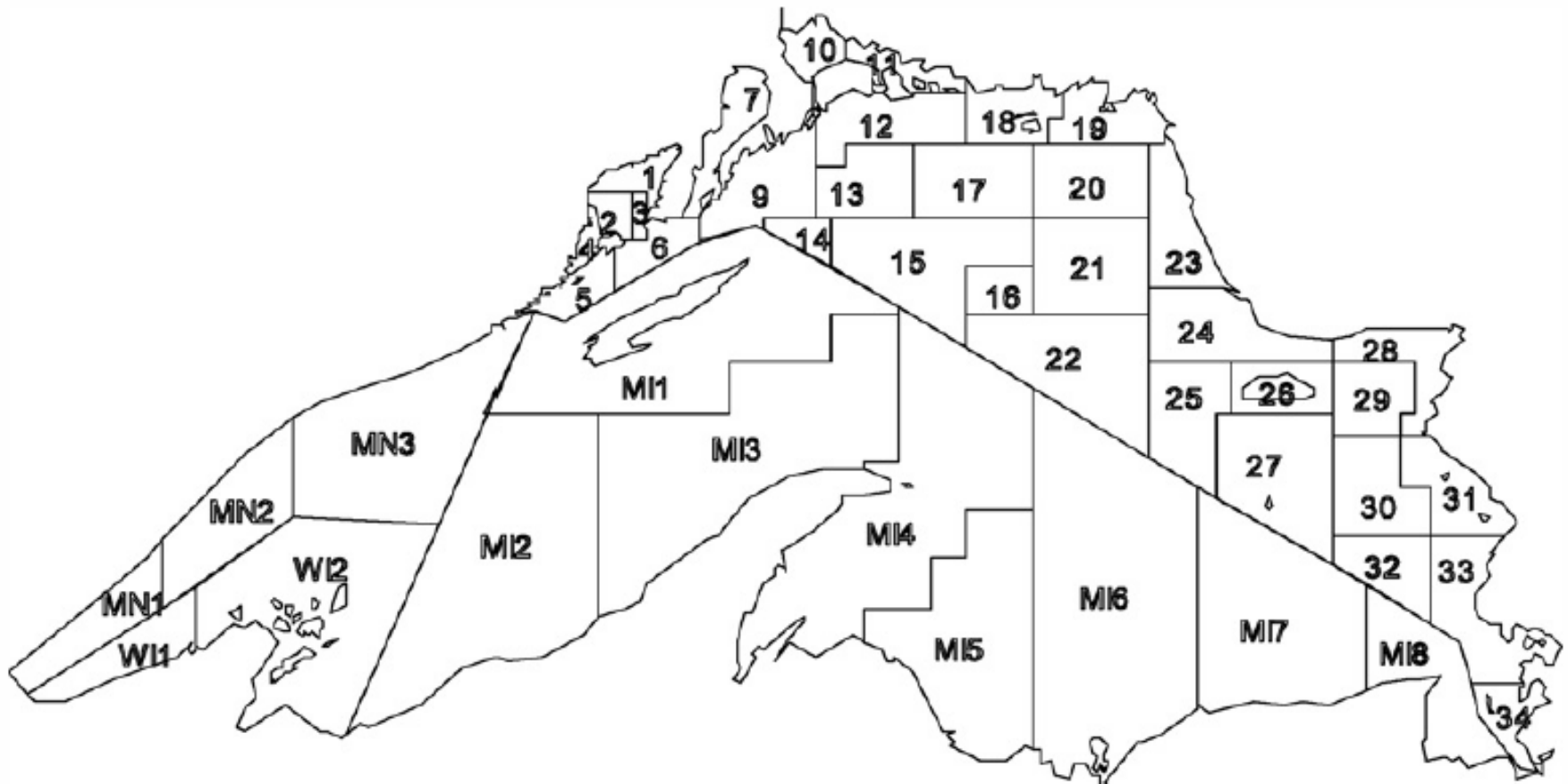
Photo: Derek Montgomery



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Wisconsin Waters of Lake Superior



State-Tribal Fishing Agreement

Lake Superior Fishing Agreement 2005-2015



Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

April 19, 2007



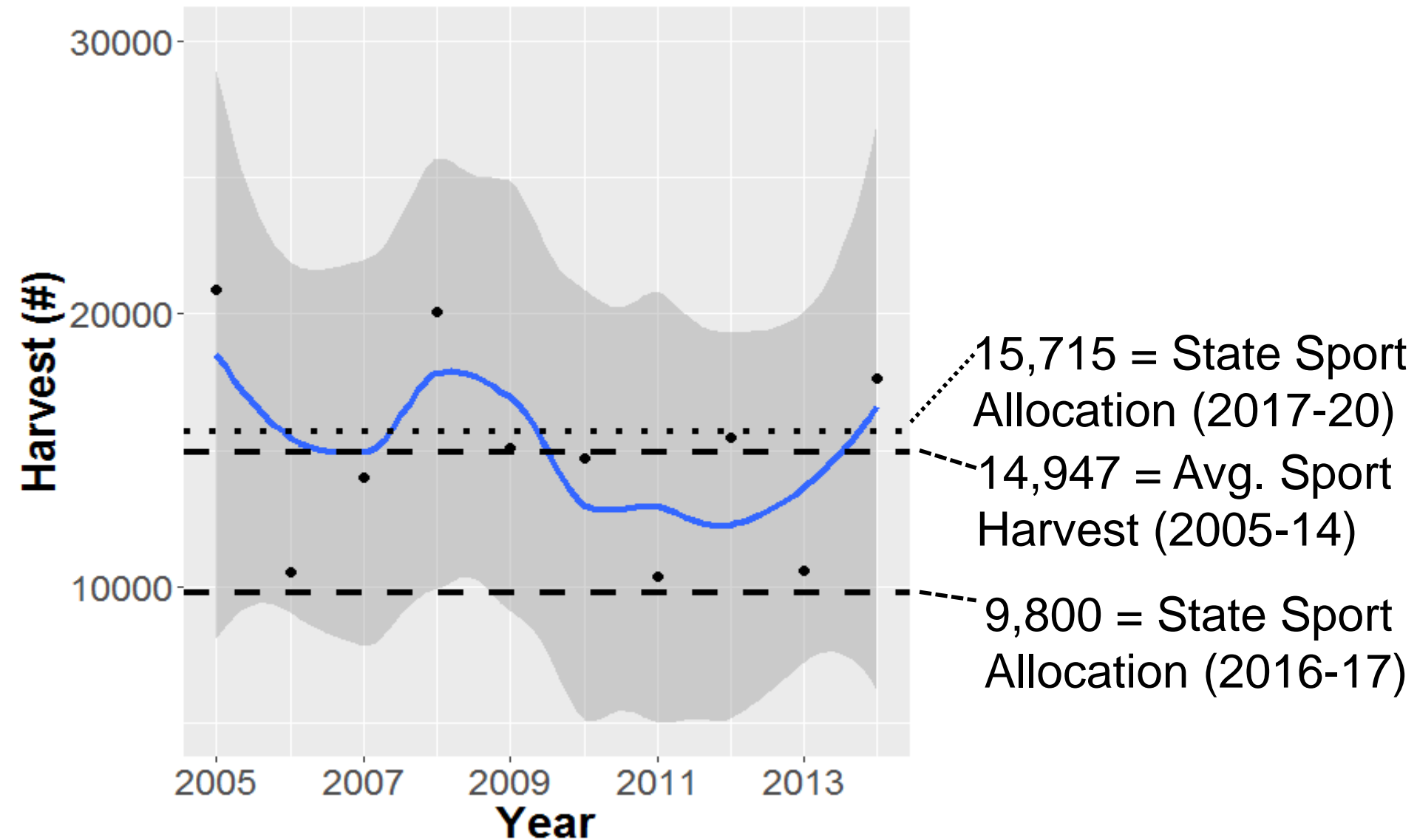
RECOMMENDED MAXIMUM LAKE TROUT HARVEST
FOR THE APOSTLE ISLANDS REGION OF LAKE SUPERIOR
FOR THE 2013-2015 FISHING YEARS
(November 28, 2012 – September 30, 2015)

By

THE WISCONSIN STATE-TRIBAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

August 2012

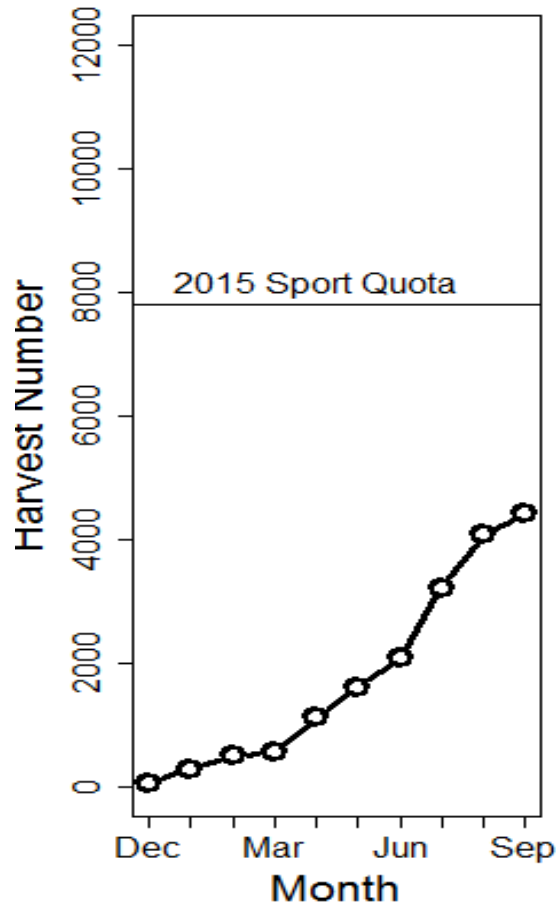
WI-2 Sport Fishery Under Permanent Rule



Effectiveness of Emergency Rules

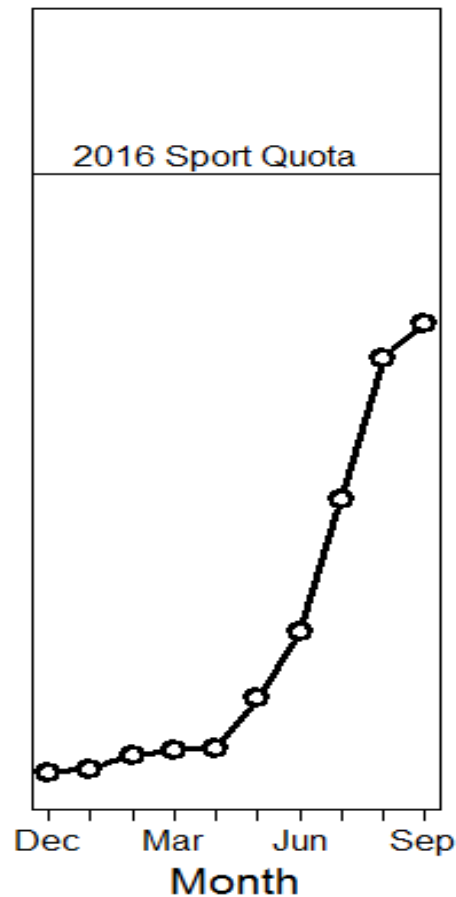
2015

- Below average ice year
- Lower Effort



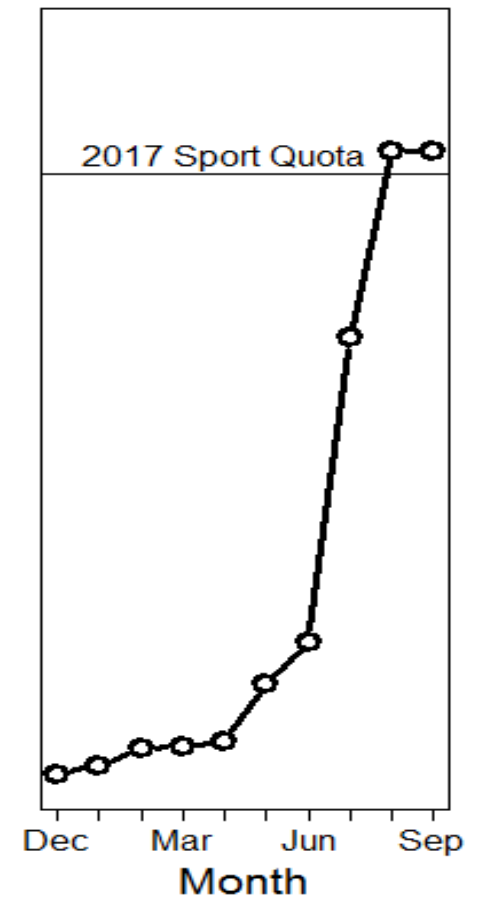
2016

- Below average ice year
- Saxon Harbor



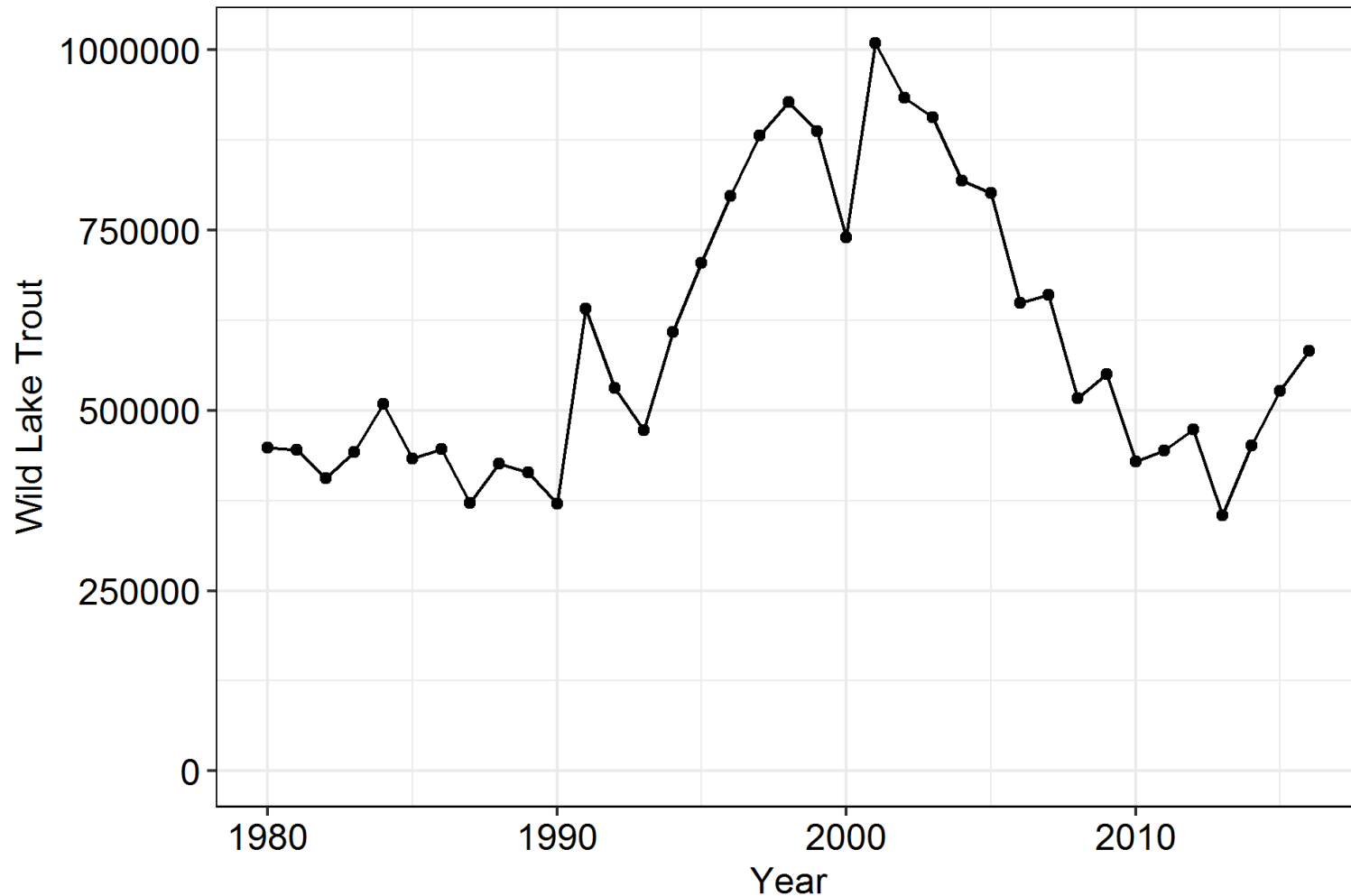
2017

- Below average ice year
- High Catch Rate



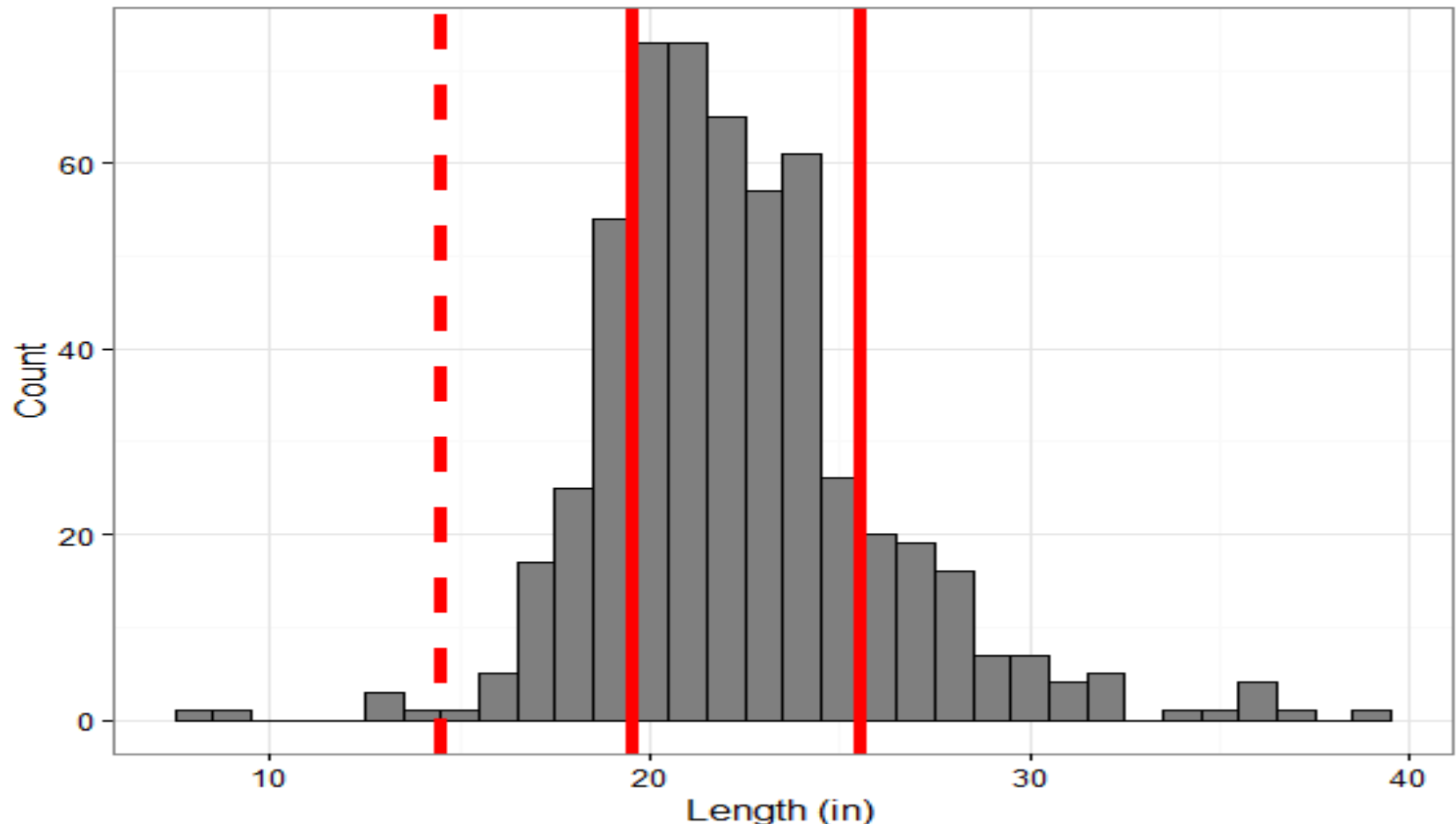
Effectiveness of Emergency Rules

- Abundance of Lake Trout in Apostle Islands



Recent Research

- Hooking mortality may be as high as 38% in Lake Superior
- 25% of the 2016 population are under 20 inches
- 33% of harvest 2010-2014 was under 20 inches

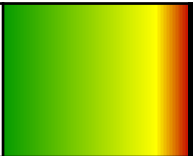


Conditions to Future Regulations

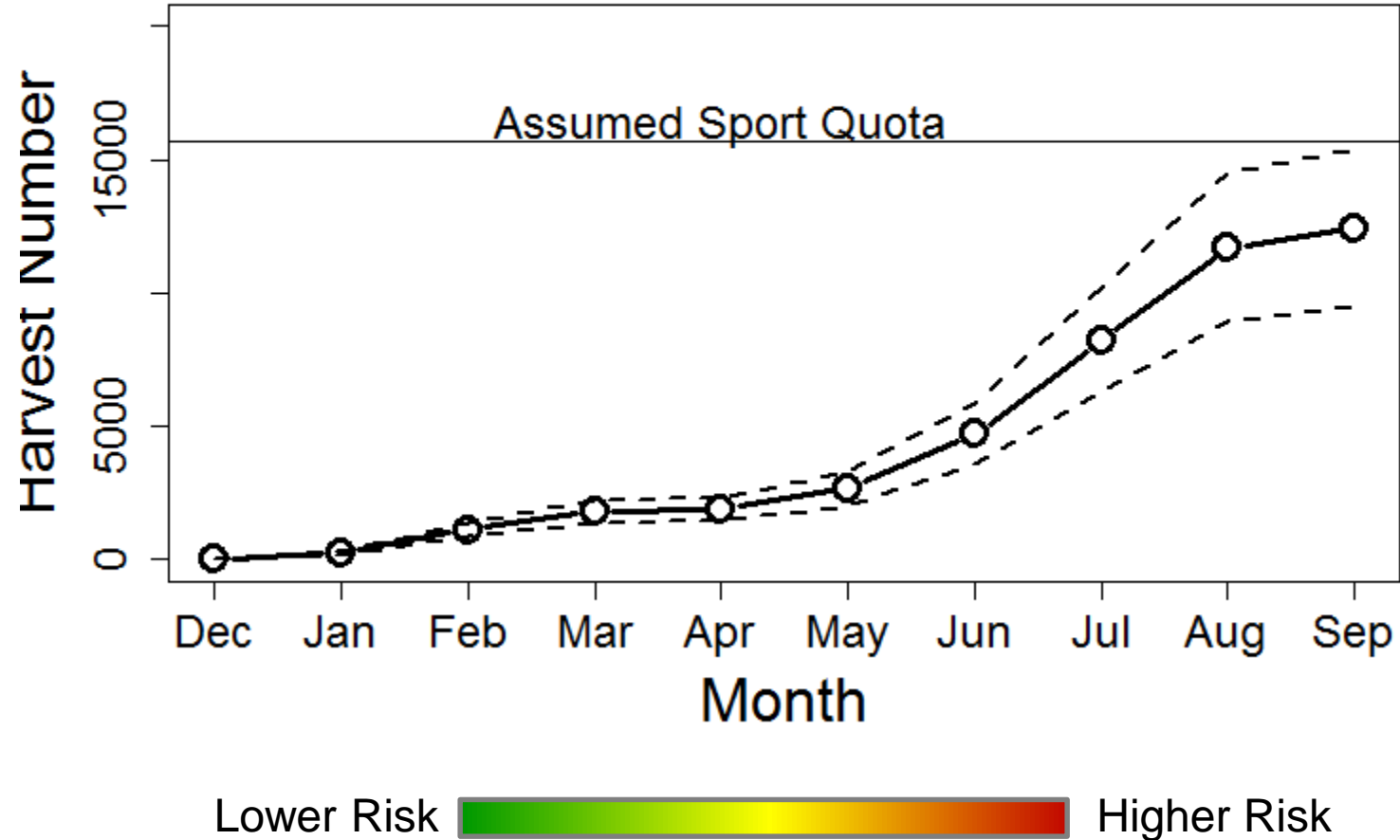
- Sport fishing quota will be higher than last year
- No “fine tune knob” exists to control sport harvest
- Triggers will be implemented so that quota is not exceeded
- Final decisions will be based on input from all stakeholders



Regulation Options and Associated Risk

#1	Harvest = 15" Minimum (1 Bag)	20.5% Chance of Closure	
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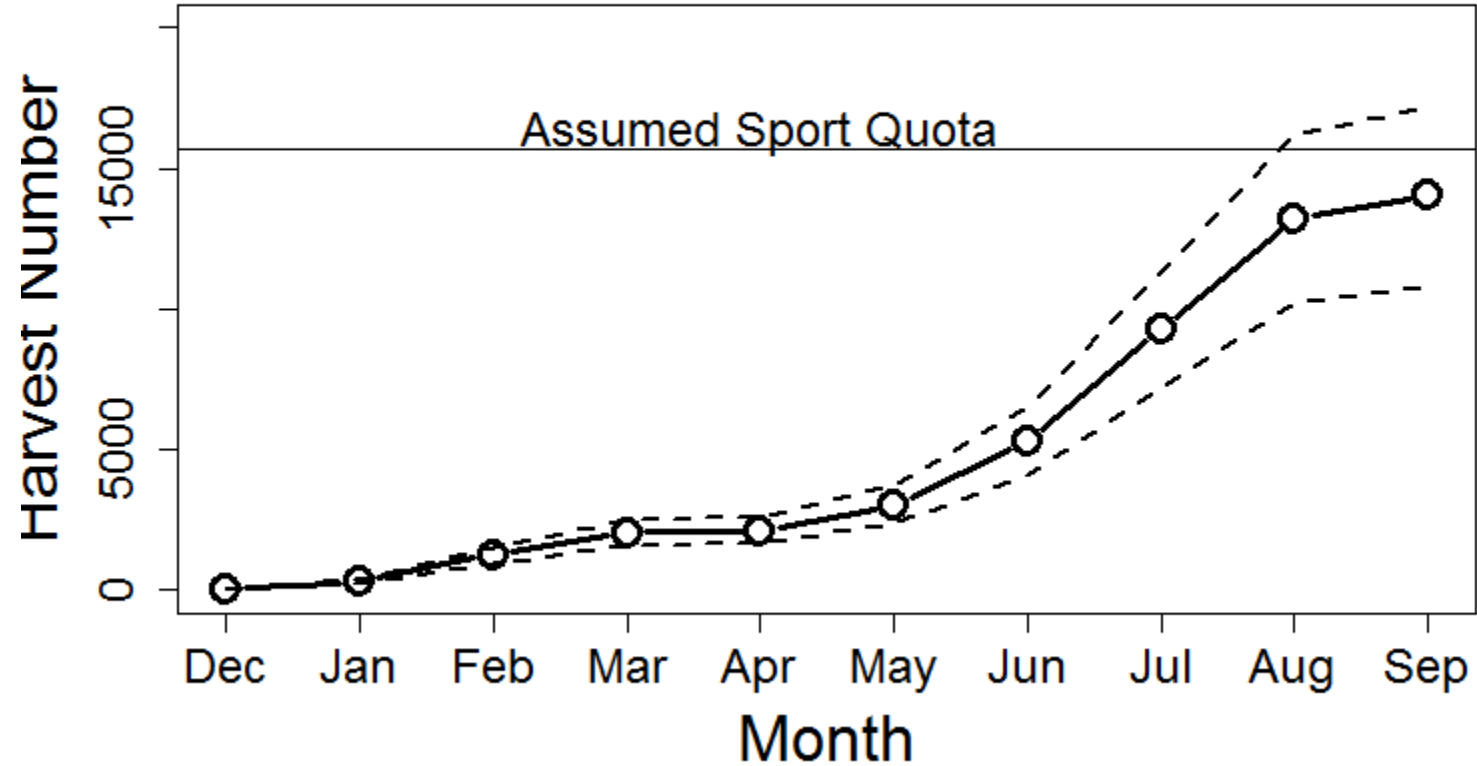
Simulated Based on Average Estimates



Regulation Options and Associated Risk


#2	Harvest = 15" Minimum One over 25" (2 Bag)	33.9% Chance Closure	
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Simulated Based on Average Estimates

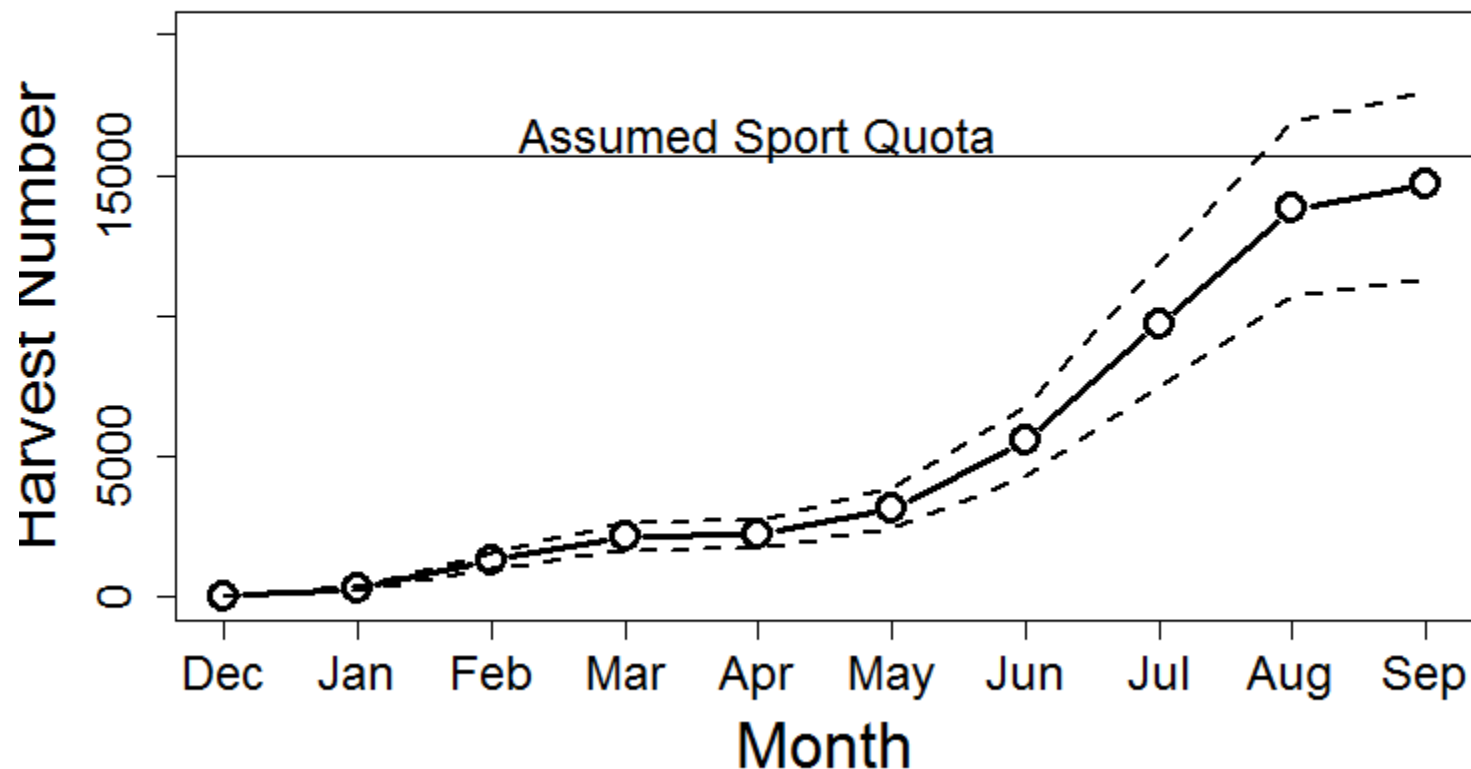


Lower Risk  Higher Risk

Regulation Options and Associated Risk

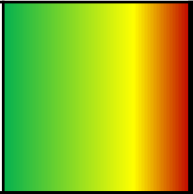
#3	Harvest = 15" Minimum One over 25" (3 Bag)	39.8% Chance Closure	
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Simulated Based on Average Estimates

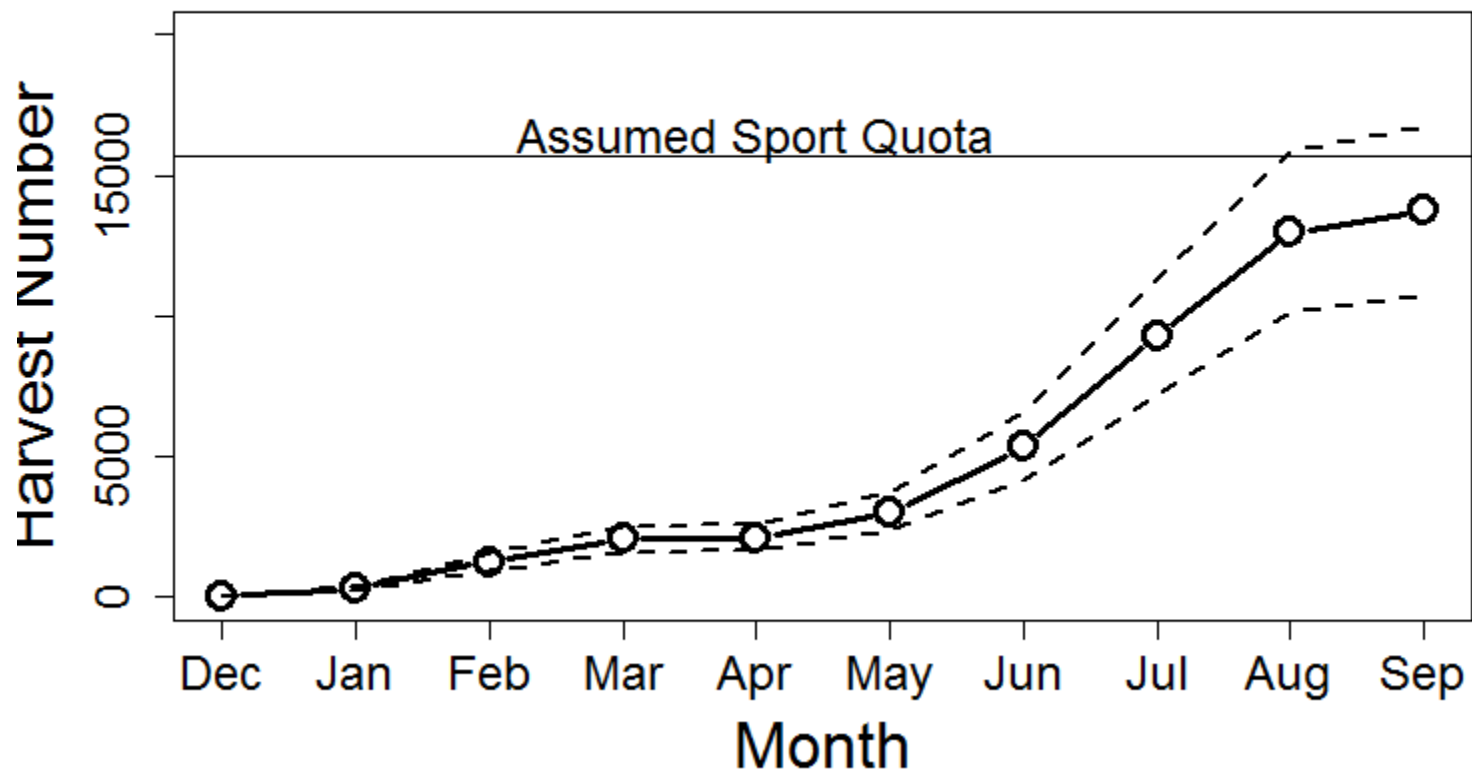


Lower Risk  Higher Risk

Regulation Options and Associated Risk

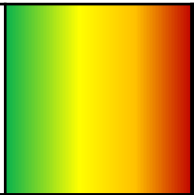
#4	Harvest = 15" Minimum One over 25" (2 Bag with reduction to 1 before closure)	29.5% Chance Closure	
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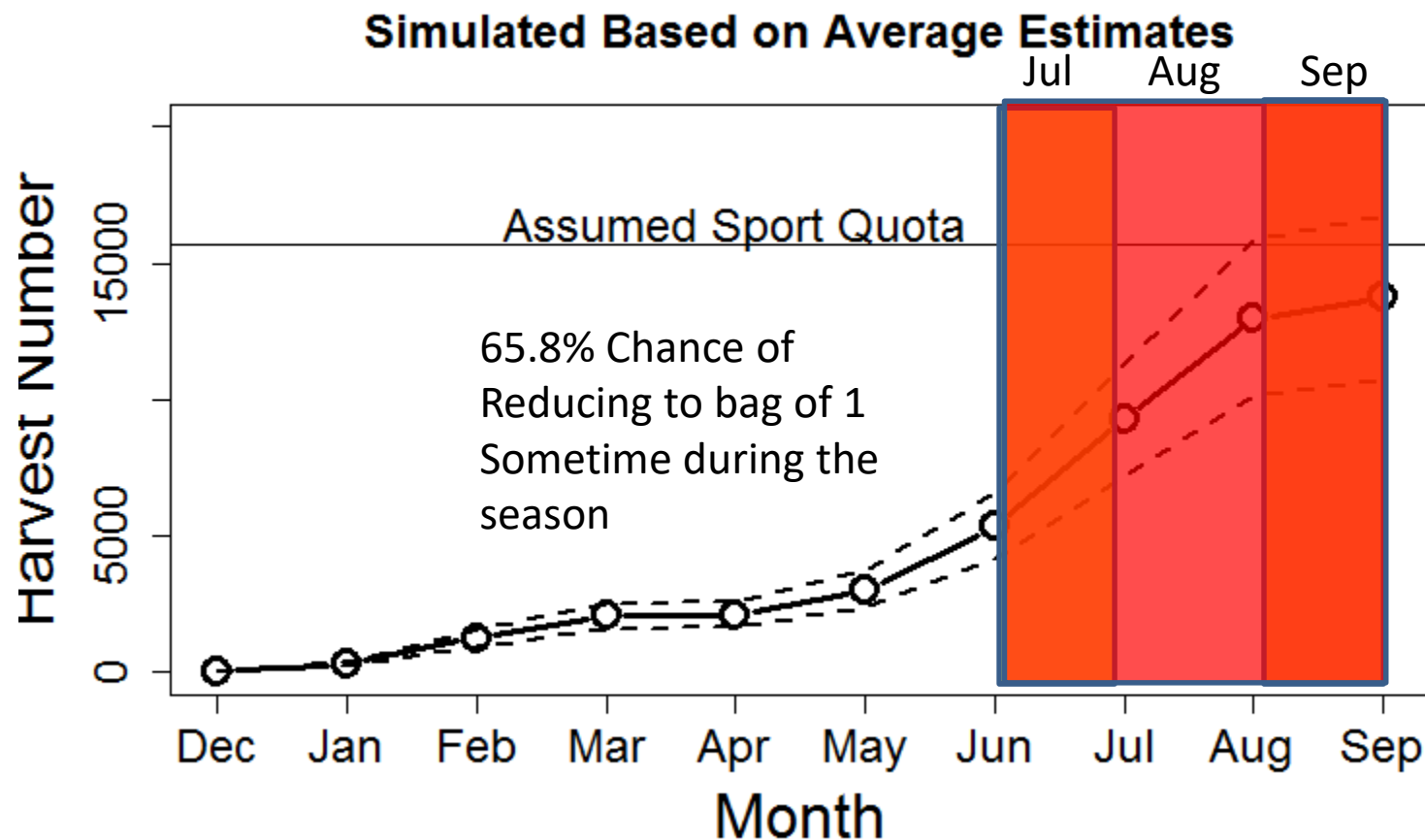
Simulated Based on Average Estimates



Lower Risk  Higher Risk

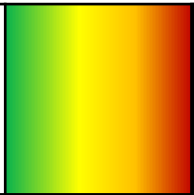
Regulation Options and Associated Risk

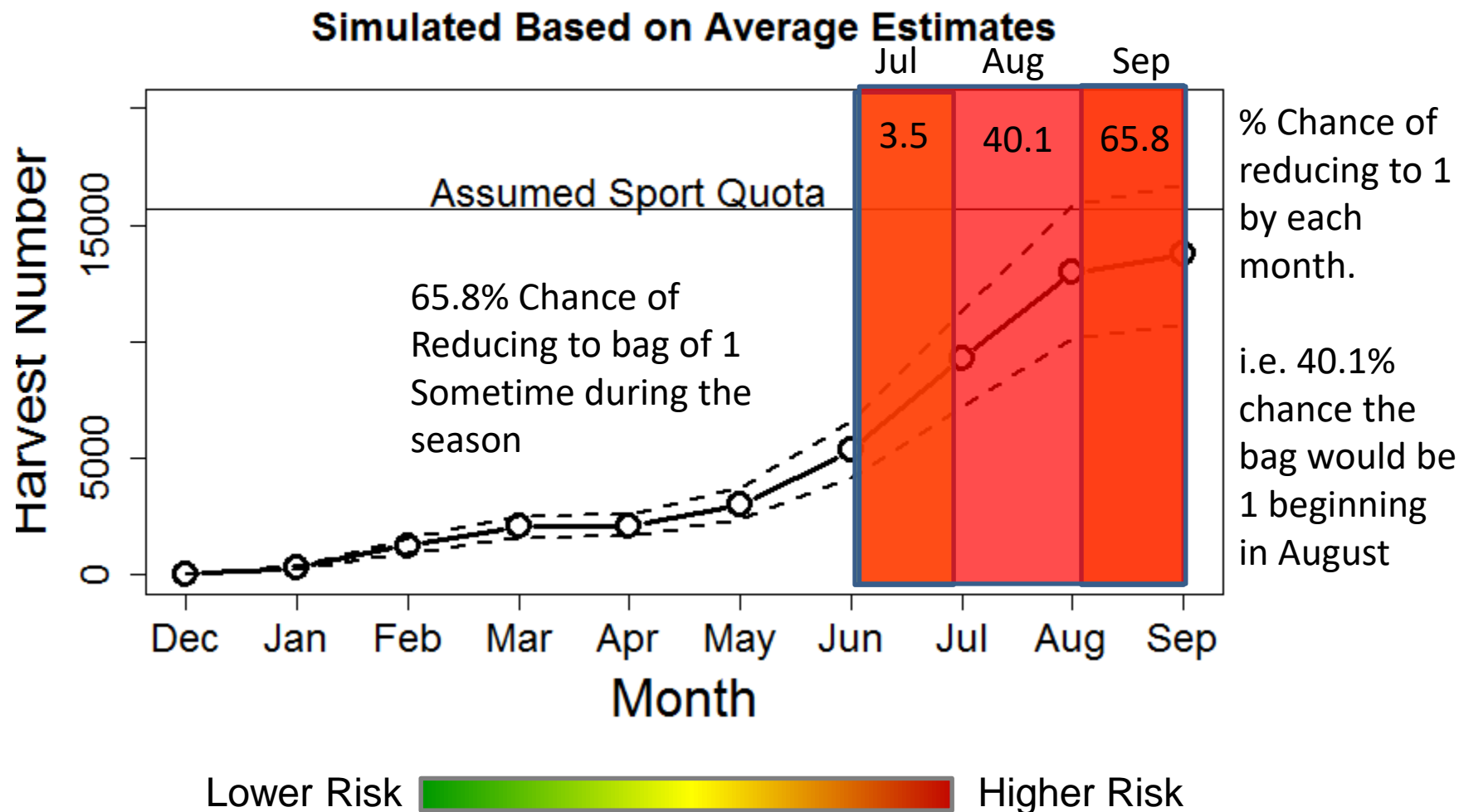
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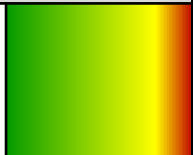


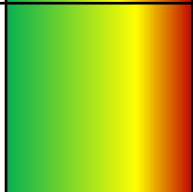
Lower Risk  Higher Risk

Regulation Options and Associated Risk

#4	Harvest = 15" Minimum One over 25" (2 Bag with reduction to 1 before closure)	29.5% Chance Closure	
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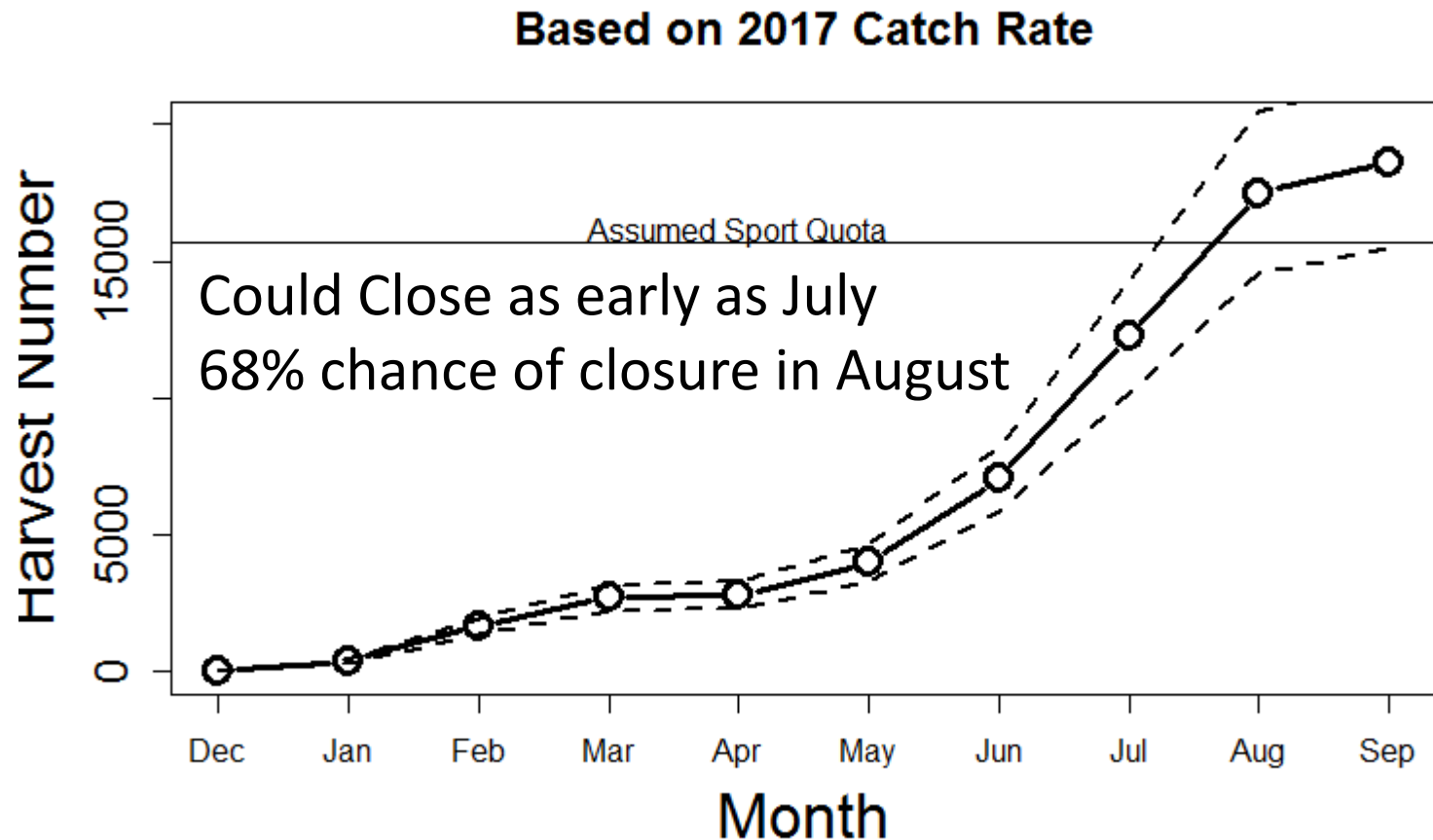
Regulation Options and Associated Risk

Option	Description	Risk	
#1	Harvest = 15" Minimum (1 Bag)	20.5% Chance of Closure	
#2	Harvest = 15" Minimum One over 25" (2 Bag)	33.9% Chance of Closure	
#3	Harvest = 15" Minimum One over 25" (3 Bag)	39.8% Chance of Closure	
#4	Harvest = 15" Minimum One over 25" (2 Bag with reduction to 1 before closer)	29.5% Chance of Closure	

Lower Risk  Higher Risk

Invoking Triggers

- Estimates are Estimates
- Season closure could occur much earlier
- Option #2 if catch rates are similar to last year



Next Steps

- November 8, 2017--Rule Hearing
- December 13, 2018--NRB Approval
- Jan-Feb 2018--Emergency Rule Hearing



Questions



Photo: NASA